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Collis, Charles Henry Tracy
Letters and testimony presented by Mr. Collis defendin
himself etc. -

EXPLANATION.

I was recently elected a Companion of the New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. While my nomination was under consideration, insidious efforts were made by a few personal enemies to resuscitate a dead slander, and to use this noble organization to strike me a blow. They failed, because the object of the Order is "to strengthen the ties of fraternal fellowship and sympathy formed by companionship-in-arms."

Nevertheless it became apparent that they had created the impression upon many officers of the old army and navy whose esteem is precious to me, that there existed some blemish upon my record as an officer in the Union army; and I was compelled to appeal to such of my associates in the field as fortunately still survive the events, to set the matter *forever at rest*.

The action of so honorable and distinguished a body as the New York Commandery of the Loyal Legion, should be accepted as final; calumny, however, wearing the mask of friendship, will perhaps continue its whisperings, but it will fail to poison the mind of any *soldier* who reads these pages, which I would not now put in print did I not feel impelled so to do by a sense of duty to my gallant regiment and to my children.

CHARLES H. T. COLLIS,

(Colonel 114th Penn. Vols.)

Bvt. Maj.-Gen'l Vols.

1055 Fifth Avenue, N. Y.

April 27th, 1891.

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